

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 13, line 1 as follows:

--From figures 3 and 4 it can also be seen that, according to another feature of the invention, pneumatically actuable sheet gripping means are provided for each mold 17A, 17B; the gripping means comprises a pneumatic frame 36A, 36B for gripping the sheets SA, SB from below, around their peripheral edges, on the side opposite to that of the gripping device 24 of the bell-shaped device ~~[[14A,]]~~ 15A, 15B as explained further on. In this connection the pneumatic frames 36A, 36B are shaped and sized identically to the pneumatic frames 24 of the two bell shaped devices 15A and 15B. This proves to be extremely advantageous in that it enables the individual sheets SA, SB to be supported along the two processing lines 10A, 10B and transferred by the bell shaped devices 15A, 15B above the shaping molds 17A, 17B, by gripping the sheets themselves along a narrow peripheral strip. This makes it possible to considerably reduce scraps, and losses of valuable material, compared to the conveying systems previously used in the usual thermoforming plants which make use of belts or other similar conveying systems for the plastic sheets.--